

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/618,592

Examiner

Igor Kershteyn

Applicant(s)

HATTORI, MASAKAZU

Art Unit

3745

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on ____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/15/03,02/13/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE DRAWINGS:

The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner:

The drawings are objected to because in Figures 1, 2, and 12 the text in the boxes indicating pump 200 recites "HYDRAWLIC PUMP".

The correction of the text to "HYDRAULIC PUMP" would overcome the objection and has been pre0approved by the Examiner. The corrected drawings must be designated as "Replacement sheets".

In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

Reasons for allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The instant invention is deemed to be directed to an unobvious improvement to a hydraulic device over U.S. Patent No. 6,530,220 which teaches a hydraulic device

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comprising: a reservoir tank 64 reserving a working fluid; a hydraulic pump 54 sucking in said working fluid from said reservoir tank 64 to increase in pressure and output said working fluid; a fluid distributor unit 2 hydraulically connected to said hydraulic pump 54 to be supplied with said working fluid from said hydraulic pump 54 and having a passage block 40 formed with a first hole (not numbered) inside thereof and an internal body 42 incorporated fluid-tightly in said first hole of said passage block 40 said fluid distributor unit being provided with a passageway means, an actuator 1 mounted on said passage block 40 and comprising a cylindrical shell 4 which has a first end portion and a second end portion and is formed with a cylinder chamber 16 inside thereof, a piston 12 which is movable in said cylinder chamber 16 and defines said cylinder chamber 16 into a first and second chamber at said first and second end portion side of said piston 12 respectively, and a piston rod 10 connecting to said piston 12 and disposed inside of said second chamber; said cylindrical shell 4 being integrally connected at said first end portion thereof to said passage block 40 with said second end portion of said cylindrical shell 4 projecting outward in an axial direction of said actuator from said passage block 40, said passageway means of said passage block having a first 48 and second 58 passageway to hydraulically communicate said first valve means 80, 82 and said internal body 42 with each other, a third passageway 114 to hydraulically communicate said internal body 42 and said first chamber of said actuator 1 with each other, and a fourth 116 passageway.

The improvement comprises the internal body formed with a groove means on an outer surface, the fluid distributor unit being provided with a passageway means

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hydraulically connected to the groove means, a hydraulic module mounted on the passage block and having a first valve means that controls supply of said working fluid in said passageway means; a connecting member having a first and second end portion and connecting at said first end portion of said connecting member to said fluid distributor unit and at said second end portion of said connecting member to said actuator; said connecting member being formed with a channel inside thereof to hydraulically communicate said groove means of said internal body and said second chamber of said actuator with each other.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Prior Art

Prior art made of record but not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure and consist of four patents.

Goldring (2,976,852) is cited to show an actuator with an integral valve unit having a module mounted on the valve unit, a connecting member but fails to teach an internal body having a groove means and the actuator being a hydraulic actuator.

Bokelman (3,158,068) is cited to show an actuator with an integral valve unit having an internal body, a hydraulic module mounted on the valve unit but fails to teach a connecting member and the internal body having groove means.

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Bertaux (3,818,800) is cited to show an actuator with an integral valve unit, a hydraulic module mounted on the valve unit but fails to teach a connecting member and the internal body having groove means.

El Sherif et al. (4,150,686) is cited to show an actuator with an integral valve unit having an internal body, a hydraulic module mounted on the valve unit but fails to teach a connecting member and the internal body having groove means.

Contact information

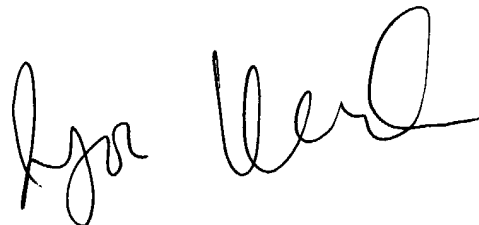
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Kershteyn whose telephone number is (703) 308 8317. The examiner can be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Look, can be reached on (703) 308 1044. The fax number is (703) 872-9306.


Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308 0861.

IK

September 30, 2004



Igor Kershteyn
Patent examiner.
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EDWARD K. LOOK
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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9/30/04